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16 October 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: ADP in the Geography Division, Office of Basic and Geographic Intelligence

PRESENT:

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OBJECTIVE:

To discuss the potential role of ADP in the Geography Division, OBGi.

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS:

1. It was pointed out that three attempts to apply ADP had not proved effective thus far.

- a. The IMP
- b. Production Control
- c. The Radar Masking Studies

2. The application of ADP methods to research is not clearly defined at the present time. Most emphasis to date has been on the larger Agency (and Community) problem of storage and retrieval of information. Even here we are not completely satisfied that our needs are fully ground into the storage coding. For example, coordinate locations are not planned for the [redacted] system. For the geographer, this will prove a handicap and a short-fall.

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3. The types of data involved in geographic research are so varied that it is not clear that automation is necessarily the best answer. It was recognized that ADP is not practical unless large bits of information are to be massaged and handled.

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4. Note was taken of the cost/inputting meaningful data. Again, unless large quantities are involved ADP may not prove cost effective.

5. Attempts to make our requirements known to CRS must be continued. Dialogue with [REDACTED] is encouraged to cover the Far East area of interest. Hopefully, a pattern might be set that will prove effective in other geographic areas.

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25X1A9a 6. To better appreciate what is being done currently, plans were made to have [REDACTED] brief the Geography Division staff on projects in automation underway in the Cartography Division. These cover requests from several research offices and may provide concepts useful to GD/BGI.

7. Final summary conclusion was that, except for our close relationship to the larger Agency problem in storage and retrieval, there is no clear-cut proposal at this time that suggests a specific ADP project within the Geography Division.

Sumed
[REDACTED]
Deputy Director

Basic and Geographic Intelligence

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Distribution:

1 - each attendee

2 - OD/BGI

OD/BGI: [REDACTED] :mjc/2633(16 Oct 67)

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